



## **First Responder Network Authority Weekly Update to the State and Territory Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) – October 26, 2015**

### **FirstNet News**

- Comments on the [Special Notice](#) requesting feedback from stakeholders on “Appendix C-10 Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network Cyber Security” were due October 21. FirstNet received approximately 40 submissions from industry and states; thanks to those organizations that provided feedback.
- Several new staff have started at FirstNet, including three Senior Advisors - Mike Worrell (fire), Brent Williams (EMS) and Bill Hinkle (911); two tribal liaisons – Adam Geisler and Margaret Muhr, one federal liaison – Charlotte Whitacre, and the Region 3 Lead – Lori Stone. Blogs will be posted shortly on the FirstNet website regarding their background and responsibilities at FirstNet.
- This week, FirstNet will participate in the Oklahoma initial consultation meetings, the American Council for Technology/Industry Advisory Council Executive Leadership Conference, the annual Wisconsin Public Safety Communications (WIPSCOM) 911 Conference, the Military Communications (MILCOM) 2015 conference, the Intel Security FOCUS 2015 conference, and the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) Atlantic Regional Fall Training Conference.
- Last week, FirstNet participated in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) and Guam initial consultation meetings; the Major Cities Chiefs, International Association of Chiefs of Police, and Police Executive Research Forum (MCC/IACP/PERF) co-located conferences; the Governors Interstate Indian Council (GIIC) board meeting; the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Annual Convention and Marketplace; Public Safety Communications Research’s (PSCR) Location-Based Services Summit; the Department of Agriculture Chief Information Officers Council meeting; and the Industry Council for Emergency Response Technologies (iCERT) National Conference.
- To date, FirstNet has held 54 initial state consultation meetings involving more than 3,600 public safety representatives. An updated schedule can be viewed on the [website tracker](#).

### **News from the PSAC, States, and Territories**

- We are reviewing data submissions (10,800+ survey responses from public safety entities nationwide including 50 states, several federal agencies and 1.3 million users) and have scheduled calls with the states from October 23 through November 6 to discuss and clarify inputs.

### **Media Watch**

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#### *Traditional Media*

Media coverage this week continued to focus on the October Board meeting decisions, including the FirstNet final interpretations and national approach. There has been an increase in media coverage of analyst reports about the request for proposal (RFP).

#### **Urgent Communications: FirstNet's Latest Legal Interpretations Make Opt-Out Alternative Less Appealing to States, Territories**

<http://urgentcomm.com/blog/firstnet-s-latest-legal-interpretations-make-opt-out-alternative-less-appealing-states-territor>

After last week's release of the text for 64 FirstNet legal interpretations, many in the industry question whether the "opt out" alternative for states and territories really is a practical option.

#### **Satellite Today: FirstNet Encourages Satellite Companies to Help Build US Public Safety Network**

<http://www.satellitetoday.com/regional/2015/10/19/firstnet-encourages-satellite-companies-to-help-build-us-public-safety-network/>

Leadership forming the U.S. First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) is encouraging satellite companies to step up and play a role in building the nationwide public safety network. Representatives from FirstNet said Oct. 2 in a conference call with media that in order for the network to provide ubiquitous coverage throughout the country, a mix of technologies will likely be involved, and that satellite could have a key role in enabling FirstNet to meet its mandated responsibilities.

#### **Fierce Wireless Tech: FirstNet CTO Optimistic For Smartphone Partnerships**

<http://www.fiercewireless.com/tech/story/firstnet-cto-optimistic-smartphone-partnerships/2015-10-19>

According to FirstNet's acting Chief Technology Officer Jeff Bratcher, the organization "would love" iPhones to support the network's Band 14 spectrum, but says implementing the technology is a "chicken and egg discussion."

#### **GCN: How Charlotte Built A 4G Public Safety Infrastructure with Room to Grow**

<https://gcn.com/articles/2015/10/21/charlotte-4g.aspx>

When the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department was still using 3G modems on its laptops in cruisers, connectivity issues often forced officers to pull over so they could connect to the city's network...So when the city restructured the project in December 2013 to account for changes in funding and publicly available LTE capacity, it looked for a private-sector solution for a 4G network that would meet its immediate needs, give it room to grow and accommodate FirstNet -- the nationwide, congressionally mandated interoperable broadband network for first responders -- when it deploys.

### *Web and Social Media*

FirstNet was active on social media this week. Twitter gained about 20 new followers and now has 2,793; LinkedIn increased to 1,049 users; YouTube and Google+ stayed the same at 167 subscribers and 56 users respectively.

This week, we posted four new blog entries. Features include an update to the [CTO Blog: Vehicular Network System \(VNS\) blog](#) and updates from the Wisconsin and Tennessee initial state consultation meetings. All blog posts can also be accessed through the FirstNet blog landing page at: [www.firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog](http://www.firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog).